Evening Ledger

PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1916.

Scouting Round in Burlesque

Mollie Williams on the Trail of Recruits All Summer

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL A row of swinging, stepping, singing and perspiring chorus girls swayed back and forth on the stage of the Gayety Theatre one night this week, shouting out the words of the most recent song, while a sweltering sudience clapped its moist hands in appreciation of their strenuous efforts. They—meaning the chorus girls—were hard at work as we stepped in to "take a look at the house." We didn't know what they were singing—and didn't care. All we noticed was that the dancing damsels were clad in hot-weather attire, and, even at that, they seemed to be suffering from the heat.

But the audience didn't care. Every man and woman in the place was enjoying the burlesque—they call it "burlesk" there—and after the number was finished a roar of applause called the singer and support-ing company back again. They went through the same motions, perspired just as freely, and the damp, soggy applause once more was their reward. Then the leader of the orchestra started his hirelings on a new tune, and another stunt was about to be presented.

We looked around at this juncture and noted that at the end of one of the back aisles was a fashionably clad girl, seated all alone, with her chin resting on her hand. She was taking in the show, seemed to see everything that was going on, but did not join in the applause. She did not change her position when the next number was put on, nor did she smile at any of the "funny stuff" pulled by the comedians. She just sat and absorbed everything like a high heavy attending the correct high-brow attending the opera.

"You have a pretty good audience to-ght," we remarked to Manager Howard, but did you notice the girl on that aisle

She seemed to be enjoying herself, but isn't getting excited about it. What's the answer. Do you know her?"
"Why, sure I know her," replied Howard. "You will, too, when I tell you her name. That is Mollie Williams, the Queen of Burlesque. She pays us a visit once a year during her vacation and she usually stays a couple of days. She takes in all of the summer shows, cabarets and every-thing else that has singing and music. It's the way she spend her vacation. Did you ever meet her? Come over and I'll intro-

duce you."
Then I met Mollie Williams, Miss Wil-Then I met Mollie Williams. Miss Williams seemed to be anything but the "queen" I expected to see. She was a small, dainty girl, had a pleasing personality—which probably accounts for her success on the stage—and seemed to be quite serious. She was "working," she said, and would keep on the job until August 7, when her new show starts rehearing for the coming season.

"It seems strange that you are spending your vacation in such a manner." I ven-

your vacation in such a manner," I ven-tured. "I thought theatrical folks rushed to the mountains, the seashore and the country during the summer months to rest up for the long 40 weeks' grind during the fall, winter and spring. Is this a usual thing, or are you just trying it out this

"I do this every summer," replied Miss Williams. "You see, I virtually manage my own show and it is up to me to get new talent. You can't expect the real actors and actresses to come to you, so I just go to them. It I see a performer in one of the summer shows that strikes my fancy. I try to sign him or her up for my show. In that way I have found many good people. "You are a baseball writer," she contin-

ued, "and probably know the system. What do they do in the big leagues when they need a new player? Do they put an 'ad' in the paper and then wast for replies? They do not. They send some one out to They do not. They send some one out to take a look at ball players playing all over the country and as soon as a promising youngster is seen he is signed up and sent to the big team for a try-out. Those people are called baseball scouts. I, too, am a scout—a scout for burlesque.

"It seemes funny, but I got the idea of selecting my own talent for the stage right here in Philadelphia. About four years ago, during a world's series. I was

years ago, during a world's series. I was presented to Captain Harry Davis, of the Athletics. I only saw him for a short time, and the chances are that he forgot me five minutes after he met me. But I had a short talk with him and he gave me the idea of 'scouting' for myself. "'How does it happen,' I asked, 'that

your team plays just as good every day'in the year and year after year? Don't the players get hurt, or play poorly, or some-thing? How do you replace your stars? What kind of understudies have you got. and how do you get them? You must have some system.

"Then he told me how sceuts travel all over the country looking for new talent, and I decided to try it myself.

I decided to try it myself.

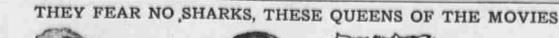
"The very next year, I decided to put on a dramatic sketch and was in need of a straight heavy' man to play it with me. I looked over all of the 'legits' in New York, but they were a very sad bunch and I passed them up. It was getting close to the opening of the season, and I was almost frantic. of the season, and I was almost frantic. Tou know, there are few legits'—that is, those Shakespearean actors—in burlesque and I was about to visit Brady or Frohman and I was about to visit Brady or Bronman to get one of their regular actors for the part when I saw an advertisement in the paper that a Western melodrama, called Wyoming, or some such name, was playing

in a theatre in Brooklyn.
"That night I attended the show, for I thought that there would be at least one Western character who could fill the bill. To my surprise, there were six of them, all dressed up in cowboy attire. I did not think much of the leading man, but there was one in the cast who struck my fancy. He did not say a word during the show, but

Continued on Page Two of this Section



ELSIE HERNDON KEARN Coming to the University of Pennsylvania with Ben Greet,





Readers

Censorship and Criticism Discussed-Questions Answered

In the hurry and press of the Scenario Contest a good many letters on other photoplay and dramatic matters have been re-ceived, but have not been printed or anawer owing to lack of space.

To the Photoplay Editor:

Further comment on the article by Bainbridge Colby in a recent issue of the EVENING LEDGER will show that the film manufacturers are doing more than comsors incidentally striving to please with wholesome, interesting "stuff," as might be gathered from some of the subjects barred by the scenario editors, to wit:

WHAT IS NOT WANTED-Tragic and depressing stories and those with unpleas-ant endings; stories of vice, crime, drugs or of brutality; questions of sex, divorce, religion, liquor, labor or politics; military or historical dramas; comedies that ridicule society or labor, business or college life; dual roles; costume or period plays; or plays of foreign locale; copyrighted stories, books, poems or plays; plots taken from copy-righted text; for counterfelts are usually recognized and returned, otherwise trouble will result for producer and author.

WHAT IS WANTED-Novel plots, original ideas and epitomes, peculiarly synon-nes without "action"; strong American stories; plays for ingenue and male stars; comedy and modern dramas; society dramas and melodramas; well-known books and plays in public domain. There seems to be a general trend toward "widespread popularity and universal appeal." ANONYMOUS.

Sir-You published in a recent Amuse sir—You published in a recent Amuse-ment Section of your paper a scathing criticisms of the play "Sazus MaTazus." written by Laurence Eyre and given its premiere in Atlantic City on June 26. I am forced to take issue with your At-lantic City correspondent in his opinion of the play, as I happened to be present at the opening performance; and, although I hold no brief for the author, it was the consensus of opinion of those with whom I consensus or opinion or those with whom I talked that he had not only attempted something most unusual, but had succeeded in "putting it across."

In these days of cut-and-dried so-called

comedy it is a real treat to see a play which attempts something new, and al-though, as is so invariably the case, this particular offering needed some revision, it certainly, to my mind, had possibilities and hardly merked the severe condemnation by Mr. Watt, who evidently has falled completely to understand the delicious negro philosophy with which the play abounds.

A READER.

To the Photoplay Editor:

Bir-Will you kindly answer through you olumns how the addresses of the different oction-picture companies may be obtained? Also what company does Charlie Chapli act for and are his pictures given out by contract or may one not connected with the staff write scenarios for him?

H. V. L. K. You will find a complete list in last Satur-You will find a complete list in last Saturday's Amusement Section and in the pages of the Photoplay Magazine.

Charlie Chaplin works for the Mutual, through the Lone Star Company. The scenarios for his pictures are largely his own work, with possibly some assistance from a staff writer. He might, however, buy some very original idea for a comedy.

To the Photoplay Editor:

Sir—Censorship is not needed in these days of high-class motion pictures, and it is a wasteful extravagance of money to hay men who do not know as much about censoring a picture as a little child of 2 or 4 years old does. Who has to stand the cost? The public and the exhibitor are both out of pocket. The public because it sees some of the best scanes cut out just to please the puritan censors, and the exhibitors who have to stand the added expense of shelling out more money for the State coffers. It might have been all right in the days of the blood and thunder pictures when companies sprang up an the fly-by-night plan. Their pictures were not fit to be seen by children, and were respon-Sir-Censorship is not needed in these

ANOTHER LUMINARY MADE IN PHILLY

It's not at all surprising that Adele Has san wins the admiration of every one who has sen aer a the stage or in a photo-



phians will have the opportunity to pay homage next week, when Miss Hassan makes her first professional appearance in her home city with "Made in Philly" at Keith's Miss Hassan is Philadelphia girl, only 19 years

old, and her un-

usual success in her first effort in

PEGGY

COUDRAY

UNNERSAL

PHILLY'S CHORUS GIRLS AND THEIR CARS

By an inspection of "Made in Phility," at Keith's, thea tregoers have discovered that Philadelphis, quite as much as New York, can produce its own "merry merries." What's more, according to the Eventual Leouse photographer, the chorus is just as well supplied with care.

an important role has not spoiled her in the least Off stage she is modest, unassuming, wholesome young tune and is honestly glad it has come to her. Miss Hassan very frankly admits she loves her work, and is delight-

fully happy for the opportunity to apper with "Made in Philly" in her home city. "Victor Herbert is really responsible for my going on the stage," said Miss Hassan "I have been deeply interested in amateur operatic and concert circles in Philadelphia for some time. I am a member of the Philadelphia Operatic Society, and when we put on 'The Serenade,' Mr. Herbert came over from New York to direct the re-hearsals. He seemed to like my voice and my acting, and when 'The Only Girl' was produced, Mr. Herbert induced Mr. Weber to give me a part. I sang for Mr. Herbert. Mr. Weber and Mr. Blossom and they were good enough to say that I had a future and that they would give me my first chance.

"A rather curious coincidence is the fact

"CHAMPAGNE JAG" FOR EVERY ONE WHO LOOKS

Photographic effects are being given more and more attention by the producers of motion pictures, and trick photography is being resorted to to convey ideas to audiences, which otherwise might not be

Miss June Caprice, the new William Fox star, is soon to appear, Director John G. Adolf has originated a new one. Miss Caprice, in the character assigned her, drinks champagne for the first time in her young life. As a result, her head "goes round" and she not only sees double, but triple.

The audience will see Miss Caprice drink the champagne—in reality, harmless white grape juice—and then it is going to see exactly what she sees-triple. The furn ture and persons in the room are photo graphed thrice and the film patched to gether so that on viewing the pictur verybody is going to "see things" Miss Caprice.

In another scene an old woman, a char acter part in the film story, comes to the doorway to meet the hero, Harry Hilliard. The woman is wearing old-fashloned "spec-The woman is wearing oid-fashloned "spectacles," which are pushed up on her forehead. She looks closely at Hilliard and the movie audience will see him just as she does—the blurs of poor syesight. This is done by photographing with the camera out of focus. When the old woman pulls her "specs" down, the camera is focused properly and Mr. Hilliard appears in all hi

Another new feature in motion pictures is a scene in which Miss Caprice is gaz-ing out of a window on a moonlight night. that my dearest friend in Philadelphia and fellow member of the Operatic Society. The audience looks with the society of the Operatic Society. The audience looks with the society of the society of the first professional appearance in her home city in 'Made in please of the few moving places of the few moving places

Votes in Cast Competition Must Not Be Held

above and mail to the Evening Ledger Photoplay Cast Contest, P. O. Box 964, or bring it to the Ledger Office. Each heading counts for 10 votes. No heading ex-The list of entries now stands as follows:

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	Name, Portus Hamilton Acheson, Int. Photo E John Adams, Port Blehm Miss Alics Andron Phila School	Organization.
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Lurin-	Rose Atkins	Rainbow Club
photo-	William Beatty 4tl	District Police
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with	James Brown	District Police
	Philip Buckley	White Company
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nia is	Wilmer Farrage	he Reel Fellows
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See all	Name, Portus Hamilton Acheson, Portus Hamilton Acheson, Int. Phote E John Adams Int. Phote E John Adams Int. Phote E John Adams Port Elchm Research Adams Angeloty P. R. Dera Anisama. Research Adams P. R. Dera Anisama. William Beatty Miss Anna M. Betsel. Fern Ro Alla Berthalson Athletic Francis Boyle. James Brown 34di Philip Buckley S. S. Eugenia Byrnes Edwin For Miss George A. Burk United Securit Lewis Clayton Miss Bestrice Clinch C. W. Collsson. Germanto Miss Grace Crox International Miss Grace Debson The Miss Eleanor Deeney L. B. S. James Curelo. International Miss Grace Debson Edwin For Mort Elseman Field Ave. Bide. Miss Elsemon Field Ave. Bide. The Miss Elsemon Field Figure Miss Eva Felion S. Howard Firing Owen Fingersid P. R. Mrs. John J. Filzpatrick. Miss Belle Finck. The Frederick Fueller Miss Belle Finck. The Frederick Fueller Maryaret C. Gardner Jakota Daniel J. Green 38th W. Robert Gilbon L. B. S. Simon Goldberz The Lerbert Goldberg Mrs. Dorcas J. Hans. Has George Hammell Sam Joseph Louis Krames Lakins Joseph Lodge. Louis Krames Baser Other Maryaret Research Selections Ist Madoun James Larkins Jesse Laventhal Carl Joseph Lodge. Civale F. Little Marris Manien Mass Mary Medettigan Mass Mary Medettigan St. Patrick Joseph Lodge. Civale F. Little Marris Manien Maryary Class '99.	Patrick Club
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House Sergeant Daniel O'Neill

Entries for the contest will still be accepted. Candidates must be entered by a cepted. Candidates must be entered by a ciub, erganization or group—that is, by such bodies as business men's ciubs, dramatic associations, labor unions, settlement-house groups, primary schools, high schools, welfare associations in stores and manufactories, fraternities, clubs, athletic associations, Y. M. C. A.'s, or, in fact, any group of Philadelphians whose common aims will lead responsibility to these ims will lend responsibility to their entri aims will lend responsibility to their entries.

In the case of popular individuals not members of such organizations the Eventuse Lebour makes a special rule that they may enter if they send with their entry blank a list of 15 friends who have formed a club to back their candidacy.

Additions to the entry list will be made daily in the Photoplay Department. The standing of the candidatus will be printed next fleaturday.

De Wolf Hopper's Logbook

The Altitudinous One Makes Some Movie Confessions

From the hinter-movieland of California come these pages from the diary of De Welf Bopper, who journeyed there several months ago under contract to David W. Griffith to act Don Quizote, Falstaff, Gulliver and other characters of literature before the camera. One of his newest, the old actor in "Stranded," will be on view at the Arcadia Monday. The Hopper of numerous first-night curtain speeches and after-dinner talks is recognized in these random remarks on movie making. tom remarks on movie making.

Monday, Morning Arrives a big man at the gate of the Grif-fith studio. Gateman dozing in the freekly sunshine under the trees.

"Name, please?" demands the gateman.
"Just say De Wolf Hopper, U. S. A.," responds the big man, and is conducted back to the studio stage.

Appear Douglas Fairbanks and other friends, all of whom the big man greets like long-lost brothers and sisters. "Hello, Doug! My Gawd, man, what's the

"Why, I'm all right"

"But your color. You can't be all right and be that color." "That's the make-up."

"Then you haven't got the jaundice? But say, old boy, if I have to go around looking that color I shall just pine away and die from suggestion. * * Hello, Miss Wara. (To Helen Ware.) You look charming. You at least, are clothed in your right mind."

"You wouldn't have thought so yesterday, when I was cast up on a desert island in Griffith Park, and went about clad in cheesecloth and confusion.

To Orrin Johnson: "Hello, Orrin, what "Oh, about six weeks, on this picture, I guess. Maybe you'll think it ought to be a life sentence when you've seen the ple-

"Well, good-by until tomorrow. By the bye, my baby will be out here in a couple of weeks. He's the very greatest kid in the world, if I do say so. Learned to say dada after only one rehearsal-

Tuesday.

My Gawd, how long will it take me to get used to these livery looking actors, I wonder! How do I feel? Well, not the way I look, I promise you that. If I did I wouldn't be here.

And the hours! I get up at 6. Didn't know there were such hours. You just begin to wake up and feel like working, you know, when you find it's all over and you've finished for the day. There's only one sat-'sfaction—you can go down at night and see yourself act!

Over Ten Days

Yes, I like Don Quixote all right. In fact, I love him. But don't you ever fancy he had an easy time tilting windmills. I tilted a windmill today. It was a very obstinate windmill, tenacious of its rights. In LEDGER Photoplay Cast contest. Headings clipped from the first pages of the Evening Ledger will not be credited to tried to stop a windmill when it was on its tried to stop a windmill in the world can go EVENING LEDGER will not be credited to candidates unless they are received at the Ledger Office within 10 days after the date appearing just below the heading.

To vote for your candidate, cut out the heading "Evening Ledger" and date line appearing at the top of the first page. Write your candidate's name in the white margin above and mail to the Evening Ledger in cleaning Ledger in the white margin above and mail to the Evening Ledger in cleaning.

> Yes, we did some follow-up scenes today The director told me to go over and hit a man. "What for?" I asked. "We've just finished an amicable lunch of apple ple and certified milk, and we're like brothers. I can't go up and hit a man I've just been drinking innocent milk with. My Gawd, this is a cold-blooded business." "But you were angry at him yesterday," persisted the director. "Well, am I still mad? I don't feel nad, but if you say I am-"

The motion pictures work in a mysterious way their wonders to perform. Testerday out on location what do you think I saw? Another company was doing something biblical. Up drove a sumptuous Fiat and out hopped a couple of Pharisees. Next followed a humble Ford. It stopped and John the Bactest allocated the Baptist alighted.

Getting the props for these pictures is certainly difficult sometimes. I wanted a helmet today, not a real helmet, but something that would be funny in the pictures. I told the property man what I wanted, and asked him to bring me a Bridget's Delight. He smiled and went away. After hunting all day one of his men came back and said he couldn't find what I wanted anywhere in town. "Oh, never mind," I said, "just bring me a little dishpan." Got a letter from William Junior's mother

today, and she says he's coming out to find out if I really do get up in the morning or send my double over to work,

Out on location at Santa Barbara. Started to work at 8 o'clock this morning and was shot at sundown. No reflection on my work, the director said.

Have discovered that the fog up here runs on schedule. Consult the weather man every day, and if I find the fog is not due to depart until 11 o'clock I bury my alarm clock and stay in hed. Went back to bed in my make-up one morning. It was before I found out about the schedule, and the chambermaid thought I had gone. She came in caught one glimpse of my awful face, thought I was dead and mortified, and ran out yelling for a doctor.

out yelling for a doctor.

By the bye, the director asked ms this morning whether I wanted a double. "Tea," I told him; "every morning from 8 to 16."



JOSEPH CAVANAUGH cornelist at Buena